



Congressman Ben Cardin

Maryland's Third District



Congressman Ben Cardin - Maryland's Third District

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Dear Friends,

I recently visited with students at the University of Maryland's College Park campus who are very concerned about cuts in federal student aid programs. They are right to be worried.

Unfortunately, the Bush Administration is trying to deal with its bad budget decisions and a mushrooming federal deficit by cutting federal aid to college students. While tuition and fees at four-year public colleges have risen 46% since 2001, the Administration has increased Pell Grants by only 8%, eroding the ability of millions of students and their families to pay for a college education. The Administration also wants to eliminate the Perkins Loan program for low- and moderate-income families.

The House is scheduled to vote soon on a proposal to cut another \$14 billion from our nation's federal college student aid programs. At the same time, the Administration wants \$70 billion in new tax cuts on top of the more than \$1 trillion in tax cuts that were enacted in 2001 and 2003.

In addition to cuts in federal student aid programs, Maryland students attending public universities and colleges have seen their tuition increase by approximately 40% since 2003.

In cutting federal student aid programs and increasing state tuitions, we are failing to invest in our future. Education is the key to job creation and competing in the global marketplace. We should be expanding access to college, not reducing it by making it more difficult for millions of Americans to afford.

Sincerely,

Benjamin L. Cardin
Member of Congress



REP. CARDIN TELLS U. MD STUDENTS THEY ARE LIKELY TO SEE SEVERE CUTS TO FEDERAL STUDENT AID PROGRAMS

At a student forum at the University of Maryland's College Park campus, the Congressman tells students the House is scheduled to vote soon on cutting more than \$14 billion from federal student aid programs. He told the students that we should be expanding access to college, not reducing it by making it more difficult to pay for a college education.

Yes, please send me these informational E-News Updates in the future.*

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*Please note that your E-mail address will not be shared with anyone.

Previous Survey Question Results

Would you support legislation allowing the federal government to negotiate with drug companies to get lower drug prices for Medicare beneficiaries?

Answer	Percent
Yes	90.56%
No	9.44%
Total	100%

New Survey Question

Do you support significant cuts in federal student aid programs in order to fund President Bush's proposal to cut taxes by an additional \$70 billion?

Yes

No

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